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Ms. Carol J. Hanlon  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office (M/S 025)  
P. O. Box 30307  
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0307

Via fax: 1-800-967-0739

## Subject: A Possible Site Recommendation for Yucca Mountain

Argonne National Laboratory is pleased to provide its views on the "Suggested Topics for Public Comment on Yucca Mountain."

- *Please provide your views concerning whether the Yucca Mountain Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation (PSSE) ... provide an adequate basis for finding that the Yucca Mountain site is suitable for development of a repository.*

We believe that there is now an adequate body of scientific information and analysis to support a finding that the Yucca Mountain site is suitable for development of a repository. No additional scientific study is needed to conclude that the site is suitable.

- *... do you believe that the Secretary should proceed to recommend the site to the President at this time?*

The results presented in the Yucca Mountain PSSE show that the regulatory dose limits would be satisfied. Therefore, we believe that the Secretary should proceed to recommend the site to the President without delay.

- *Are there any reasons that you believe should prevent the President from concluding that the Yucca Mountain site is qualified ... ?*

We see no reason that should prevent or delay a decision by the President that the site is qualified and to initiate the licensing process.

- *If you believe that the Secretary should not proceed ... (2 topics)*

Not applicable; we believe that the Secretary should proceed.

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C. J. Hanlon

-2-

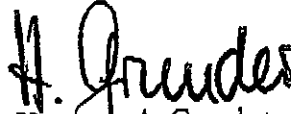
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- *Please provide any other comments ... that are otherwise relevant to the consideration of a possible recommendation by the Secretary.*

In addition to recommending the Yucca Mountain site to the President, we believe that the Secretary should support a development and demonstration program on advanced reactor and fuel cycle technologies that are highly proliferation-resistant and which can reduce the long-term toxicity of the waste going to Yucca Mountain. Application of such an advanced technology would increase the assurance of satisfactory long-term performance of the repository.

Questions may be addressed to me (630-252-2481), my Deputy, Beverly Hartline (630-252-2651), or to the Associate Laboratory Director for Engineering Research, Yoon Chang (630-252-4856).

Sincerely yours,

  
Hermann A. Grunder  
Laboratory Director

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2